

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, The Child Welfare League of America has promoted the Children's Memorial Flag as a way of memorializing the thousands of children and teenagers in the United States who die violently each year; and,

Whereas, Each year, numerous governors become involved in an impressive effort to fly the flag to commemorate children; and,

Whereas, The Children's Memorial Flag has become a symbol of the need to do a better job of protecting children; and,

Whereas, The response of the public has been overwhelmingly positive as the program progresses each year; and,

Whereas, Approximately three million children are reported abused and neglected in this country each year, and the effects of child abuse are felt by whole communities and need to be addressed by the entire community; and,

Whereas, Effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, religious and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and,

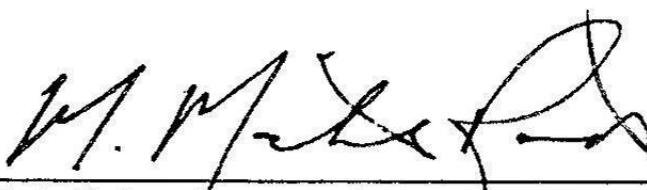
Whereas, All citizens should become more aware of the negative affects of child abuse and its prevention within their communities and become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 25, 2008, as

CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL FLAG DAY

in South Dakota, and urge all citizens to remember the thousands of children across our state and country that are affected by abuse and violence each year and to increase their participation in efforts to prevent child abuse, thereby, strengthening the communities in which we live.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-second Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.



M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:



Chris Nelson, Secretary of State